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LB 962

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Mr. President. I would yield my time to Senator Beutler if he wants it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, if you wish.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Thank you, Senator. On page 107, the Interrelated Water Review Board, Senator, it says with regard to that body that the Governor shall appoint and convene the board within 45 days of being notified of the need to resolve a dispute. The board shall be chaired by the Governor or his or her designee, which designee shall be knowledgeable concerning surface water and ground water issues. What if the Governor is not knowledgeable, Senator?

SENATOR SCHROCK: The risk we run, I guess.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, would it be better just to have him designate somebody who is knowledgeable?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I would assume, in this case, the Governor is not going to be the ruling. He is going to designate or she is going to designate someone to convene the board and to sit in his place or her place.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, would you have objection just to changing that provision around so that it was just somebody who had some knowledge? I mean, you never know who is going to be Governor.

SENATOR SCHROCK: I'm not sure I'd have an objection to it, but I would find it hard-pressed to believe we'd elect somebody to be our chief officer in this state that did not have some knowledge of water.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, if that same person would designate somebody, I'd be hard-pressed to think they'd designate anybody that wasn't knowledgeable concerning surface water and ground water uses.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yeah, you make a point. I just don't foresee that happening.